

Many Origins: The Expansion of English America



The Reformation

- Up until the 1500s, Western Europeans were, by and large, Catholics.
- In the early 1500s, some began to challenge the domination of the Catholic church
 - Main reform we are concerned with: Man should have a direct relationship with God.

The English Reformation

- A period of conflict and evolving beliefs.
- A new Church of England
 - A state church under the monarch
 - Removed priests as intermediaries with God
 - Retained a church hierarchy (i.e. bishops)
 - Retained a service similar to Catholicism
- Placed England in conflict with Catholic powers



The Puritans

- Believed that the Reformation in England had not gone far enough.
 - Wanted to “purify” Christianity.
- Calvinists.
- Divided into
 - Separatists who believed true Christians had to leave the Church of England.
 - The Pilgrims
 - Non-separatists who believed that true Christians must remain in the Church and reform it from within.
 - Most New England settlers
- In the 1620s, the English monarchy persecuted them.

The Puritans and New England

- The Massachusetts Bay Company (1629)
 - Organized the colonization of Massachusetts by Puritan non-separatists.
- Had the twin goals to advance Puritanism and trade.
- Was initially allowed to run the colony with no interference from England.



The Great Migration

- Between 1629 and 1642, 21,000 Puritans migrated to New England
- They were a very different group than the English who went to Virginia.
 - Puritan migrants
 - More likely to come in family groups
 - Few servants and slaves.
 - More women.
 - Older and more prosperous.
 - Better educated.
- The climate was healthier than in Virginia, and immigrants died at very low rates for the time period.

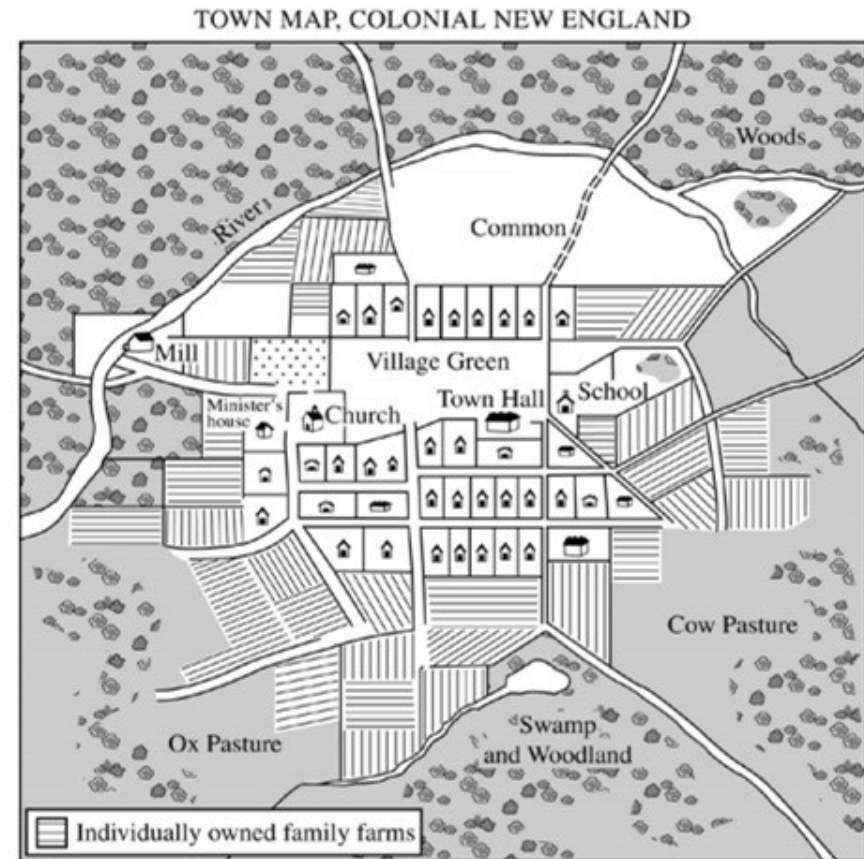
What's the point?

- Create a model society based on “godly” principals that would be an example for those remaining in England.
- For wee must Consider that wee shall be as a Citty upon a Hill, the eies of all people are uppon us; soe that if wee shall deale falsely with our god in this worke wee have undertaken and soe cause him to withdrawe his present help from us, wee shall be made a story and a byword through the world, wee shall open the mouthes of enemies to speake evill of the wayes of god and all professours for Gods sake; wee shall shame the faces of many of gods worthy servants, and cause their prayers to be turned into Cursses upon us till wee be consumed out of the good land whether wee are going.
 - John Winthrop



Puritan Society

- Hierarchical (as was typical English society more generally)
- Communal
- Consensual (within certain limits)
- Christian (of the “correct” sort)



New England and Native Americans

- New England's relationship with Native Americans was little better than Virginia's.
 - Due to earlier plagues, they had little trouble claiming land initially.
 - They claimed to hope to convert Native Americans to Christianity but did little.
 - They assumed they had a right to dominate local native groups.
 - They fought a number of bloody wars with natives during the 1600s and 1700s.
 - They ultimately exterminated, enslaved, expelled, or dominated all local native groups.

The New England Model

- Religious goals (a model Christian society)
- Communal (town- and church-centric settlements)
- Mistreatment and exclusion of Native Americans
- Autonomous governance
- Little bound labor (few indentured servants and slaves)
- Limited economic inequality (the family farm was the core of the economy)

Expanding English America



1632 Maryland

1636 Connecticut and Rhode Island

1664 New York, New Jersey, and Delaware (New Netherlands)

1670 Carolina (later South Carolina)

1679 New Hampshire (broke off from Massachusetts)

1681 Pennsylvania

1729 North Carolina (broke off from Carolina)

1732 Georgia

William Penn

- Proprietor of Pennsylvania
- A Quaker
 - An English religious sect created during the English Civil War
 - Believed that
 - All people have the divine within them
 - All people were equal spiritually
 - Liberty is the entitlement of everyone
 - Pacifists
- Persecuted in England



The Holy Experiment

- Penn planned Pennsylvania to be a colony to embody Quaker values
 - A haven for the persecuted
 - Broad political participation
 - Cheap land
 - Peace with Native Americans
- A very attractive system for immigrants

Carolina

- Founded in 1670.
- A proprietary colony.
 - Its constitution called for a feudal society.
- To attract settlers, its owners
 - Ignored feudalism.
 - Gave “English Liberty” and land.



The Colony of a Colony

- Most early settlers came from Barbados (1627)
- Barbados was
 - The richest English colony in America.
 - Committed to slavery and sugar.
 - Very small so good land had run out.
- As a result, Carolina became committed to slavery.

